



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Raised Bill No. 1313

LCO No. 4488

04488_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPEN-CHOICE PROGRAM AND NEW LONDON.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 10-266aa of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2005*):

4 (c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection.
5 (1) [For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year
6 thereafter, the] The program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New
7 London, New Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program
8 shall operate as a continuation of the program described in section
9 10-266j. Students who reside in Hartford, New London, New Haven or
10 Bridgeport may attend school in another school district in the region
11 and students who reside in such other school districts may attend
12 school in Hartford, New London, New Haven or Bridgeport, provided,
13 beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students
14 who are not minority students to the total number of students leaving
15 Hartford, New London, Bridgeport or New Haven to participate in the
16 program shall not be greater than the proportion of students who were

17 not minority students in the prior school year to the total number of
 18 students enrolled in Hartford, New London, Bridgeport or New Haven
 19 in the prior school year. The regional educational service center
 20 operating the program shall make program participation decisions in
 21 accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. [(2) For the
 22 school year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter,
 23 the program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning
 24 with the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not
 25 minority students to the total number of students leaving New London
 26 to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion
 27 of students who were not minority students in the prior year to the
 28 total number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school
 29 year. The regional educational service center operating the program
 30 shall make program participation decisions in accordance with this
 31 subdivision. (3)] (2) The Department of Education may provide, within
 32 available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30,
 33 2003, to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist
 34 school districts in planning for a voluntary program of student
 35 enrollment in every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-
 36 266p, which is interested in participating in accordance with this
 37 subdivision. For the school year commencing in 2003, and for each
 38 school year thereafter, the voluntary enrollment program may be in
 39 operation in every priority school district in the state. Students from
 40 other school districts in the area of a priority school district, as
 41 determined by the regional educational service center pursuant to
 42 subsection (d) of this section, may attend school in the priority school
 43 district, provided such students bring racial, ethnic and economic
 44 diversity to the priority school district and do not increase the racial,
 45 ethnic and economic isolation in the priority school district.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2005	10-266aa(c)
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Statement of Purpose:

To restore the open-choice program as it was originally in statute for New London.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]